

plurality of applications, respectively, the plurality of applications corresponding to the predetermined directories, respectively; and

performing management so that an application of the plurality of applications corresponding to a directory of the predetermined directories is selected in accordance with an item of the items of identification information given to a directory of the predetermined directories, when the directory of the predetermined directories is selected,

wherein an address of the application is the item of the items of identification information, wherein the application is needed when a file is executed.

2. (CANCELED)

3. (ONCE AMENDED) The application managing method, according to claim 1, further comprising:

preparing an application management table storing the items of identification information and starting addresses of the plurality of applications that correspond to the items of identification information, respectively; and

referring to the application management table when a directory of the predetermined directories is selected, so as to recognize a starting address of an application of the plurality of applications, the starting address corresponding to an item of the identification information given to the directory of the predetermined directories, and to access the application of the plurality of applications.

4. (ONCE AMENDED) The application managing method, according to claim 1, further comprising:

storing size information at a starting address of each application of the plurality of applications, the size information indicating a size of the application of the plurality of applications; and

repeating detection of the size of an application of the plurality of applications from the size information stored in the starting address of the application of the plurality of applications, and search for a starting address of a next application of the plurality of applications in accordance with the size of the preceding application of the plurality of applications, so as to obtain the starting address of a desired application of the plurality of applications.

B1
5. (ONCE AMENDED) The application managing method, according to claim 1, wherein an item of the items of identification information is given to the highest directory of the directory structure.

A2
6. (ONCE AMENDED) The application managing method according to claim 1, wherein an item of the items of identification information is given to each directory of the directory structure.

7. (ONCE AMENDED) The application managing method, according to claim 1, wherein, when an application of the plurality of applications is substantially deleted, an item of the items of identification information for the application of the plurality of applications is caused to be ineffective.

8. (ONCE AMENDED) The application managing method, according to claim 1, wherein when an application of the plurality of applications is updated, an application obtained from updating the application of the plurality of applications is added to the plurality of applications, and

wherein an item of the items of identification information for identifying the application of the plurality of applications is changed to an item of identification information for identifying the application obtained from updating the application of the plurality of applications.

9-11. (CANCELED)

A3
12. (ONCE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus, storing a plurality of applications, comprising:

a directory structure corresponding to the plurality of applications,

wherein items of identification information are given to predetermined directories of the directory structure, respectively, the items of identification information being used for identifying the plurality of applications, respectively, the plurality of applications corresponding to the predetermined directories of the directory structure,

wherein addresses of the plurality of applications are the items of identification information, wherein one of the plurality of applications is needed when a file is executed.

13. (CANCELED)

b 1
14. (ONCE AMENDED) The information processing apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising:

an application management table that stores the items of identification information and starting addresses of the plurality of applications, the plurality of applications corresponding to the items of identification information, respectively.

AH
15. (ONCE AMENDED) The information processing apparatus, according to claim 12, wherein an item of the items of identification information is given to the highest directory of the directory structure.

16. (ONCE AMENDED) The information processing apparatus, according to claim 12, wherein an item of the items of identification information is given to each directory of the directory structure.

17. (CANCELED)

AS
18. (NEW) A method, comprising:
building a file structure on an IC (integrated circuit) card, wherein each of a plurality of files in the file structure corresponds to one of a plurality of applications that are stored on the IC card;

receiving a selection of one of the plurality of files; and
executing one of the plurality of applications, which corresponds to the one of the plurality of files, based on one of a corresponding plurality of starting addresses that are stored in the file structure.

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed on October 9, 2002, claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over Watanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,590,306 ("Watanabe")). The foregoing rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-17 are pending in the subject application, of which claims 1, 9, 12, and 17 are